

Cambridge 134cmc265

University Graduates and P.N.E.U. Methods of Teaching.

On Wednesday May 4th I visited Mr. Fox, Principal of the Cambridge University Training Dept. at Warkworth House. His students are all graduates who come for one year's training and at the end of it take the Teaching Diploma of the University of Cambridge. They mostly go into secondary schools, but part of their training must be done in a public elementary school.

Mr. Fox was under the impression that our mission was the teaching of English and I had to assure him as to our liberal programme in many directions. He thinks that when we have a demand for a man teacher with a knowledge of P.N.E.U. methods it would be well to let him have a notice of it to put up on the notice-board. I found it necessary to correct many inaccurate ideas about Miss Mason's methods and of the objects of the P.N.E.U. and P.U.S. and for this reason alone the interview must be considered a valuable one.

I have sent Mr. Fox a list of schools in or near Cambridgeshire which may be visited by him and his students, also many pamphlets, a list of Miss Mason's books, specimen programmes (Blue Liberal pamphlet), etc. He would like Mr. Household to go and speak to his students in November or June 1928.

On the same day I visited Miss M. H. Wood, Principal of the Post-graduate Training College for Women. She was equally, or even more interested as she knew more about the work, having had Miss Pennethorne down to lecture. It is a delightful college; among the other students I saw two very attractive Indian students. Practically all the students have taken an Honours Degree and therefore are likely to become specialists. However Miss Wood finds that her specialists in English find it hard to get posts and she thinks that our work would interest them. She agreed to include Miss Mason's books in the students' bibliography, and will allow any student who wishes, to take Miss Mason as their one educationalist for special study.

Miss Mason's books are not at present in the library and, as in the case of Mr. Fox, I felt that to have gained this point alone was enough to make the visit worth while.

Miss Wood is a delightful woman, interested in many things. She had the common idea, however, that we cater only for quite little children. I was able to disabuse her of it. She suggested that we should get into touch with St. Mary's Training College and The Maria Grey. She would greatly like Mr. Household to speak to her students in July. She mentioned that one of her students, who is just leaving and who lives in Bromley, would like to get teaching experience in an elementary school and she thought one working on our lines would appeal to her. I am getting into touch with this girl.